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Alberta's Industries.



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Alberta, although still a mainly agricultural province, is entering a new stage in its growth - the industrial era. 1951 was the greatest year for industrial expansion in the Province's history and the westward movement of industry is expected to continue this year.

The capital expenditure for plants completed and under construction in 1951 and plants which will begin to be constructed this spring is more than \$100,000,000.

Major development on the Alberta industrial scene is the building of the \$54,000,000 Celanese Corporation (Canadian Chemical Co.) plant at Edmonton. This plant will be the largest of its type in the world. Since construction has started, many industries from other parts of Canada and the United States have made enquiries on the establishment of branch plants in Alberta to use by-products from the chemical plant.

During 1951, 15 new manufacturing industries decided to begin operations in Alberta. Some of these plants are in operation, others are still under construction, and others will start construction soon. The new plants will produce such products as chemicals, rayon, plastics, caustic soda, petroleum products and storage batteries. Capital cost of these new industries totals \$96,595,000 - an increase of \$79,095,000 over the 1950 total. It is estimated that these new industries will provide employment for 2,773 people.

During 1951, 22 companies established branch warehouses in Alberta or made major plant extensions. These developments totalled \$8,158,000 - \$4,500,000 less than the 1950 total. Department store, hotel and restaurant expansion dropped during the year to \$2,950,000 -- \$3,500,000 less than 1950. In many cases the decrease has been caused by a shortage of steel and other building supplies.

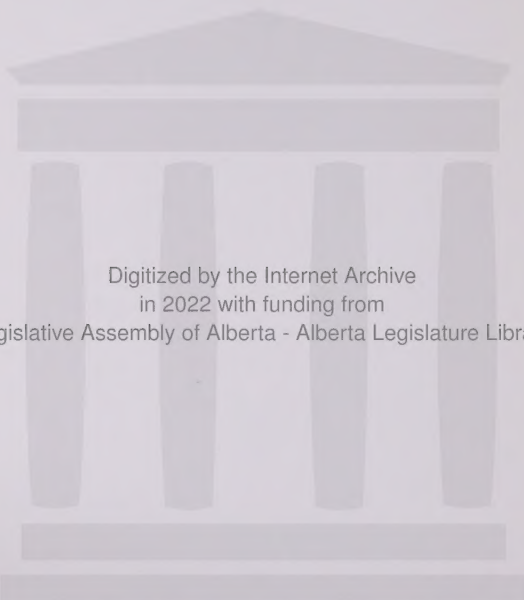
Main industrial activity was centred in the Edmonton area. British American Oil Co. Ltd and McColl-Frontenac Oil Co. Ltd. each built refineries at a total cost of

more than \$18,000,000 and Building Products Limited established a \$500,000 plant to produce asphalt roofing.

Construction will start soon on Canadian Industries Limited polyethylene flake plant valued at \$13,000,000.

At Fort Saskatchewan, Sherritt-Gordon Mines Ltd., will start construction of a \$17,500,000 nickel refinery this year. Projects still in the planning stage will involve further industrial expenditures of millions of dollars: details of some of these plans may be announced later this year.

Many Canadian, European, British and American industrialists are investigating Alberta's industrial potential but as yet only two British industries have decided definitely to establish branch plants here this year. However, the United Kingdom is extremely interested in the future of Alberta and British newspapers are giving ten times more space in their columns to the opportunities in Alberta than previous.



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